



## Venimus, Vidimus, Vicimus

BY IRENE XU, IV,  
ALLYSON PING, IV &  
NATHAN OALICAN, IV  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

With the conclusion of another Massachusetts Junior Classical League State Convention, Boston Latin School (with 138 delegates and seven sponsors) brought home many awards, winning first place in the whole school contest for the first time, after a close second place last year and fourth place in 2012. This year, BLS delegates received honors in all aspects of competition.

One of the most highly regarded events at State Convention is Certamen. In this Jeopardy-like game, teams are pitted against each other in nail-biting 20-question rounds and faced with a plethora of classical puzzlers. This year at convention, all three BLS teams were successful, placing first in Novice and Intermediate and third in Advanced. Not only did team members win in Certamen, but many prizes for Academic Testing were claimed by Certaminatores due to their extensive classical knowledge.

"Playing Certamen for two years built a foundation for studying the Classics, and after attending numerous tournaments and competitions, I really learned a lot of what there is to know in the Classical world," says Randy Chen (IV), a player on the BLS Intermediate Certamen team. "If you want to do well

on academic testing, or even just pull your Latin grade up, playing Certamen would be a great way to start."

Henry Tsang (I), a long-time player in his last year of advanced level Certamen, adds, "Certamen has introduced me to so many smart, talented and incredibly passionate people who have motivated me to reach my highest aspirations and has (quite literally) brought me across the world." Certamen is not only academically beneficial, but also creates lasting friendships.

In addition to academics and Certamen, arts play a large role at State Convention. Delegates participated in a variety of non-academic events, from Graphic Arts to Olympika. BLS was successful, sweeping the overall Graphic Arts awards. A lot of effort was put into

these pieces to win the overall awards.

"I worked very sporadically," says Yinyu Ji (IV), the overall Graphic Arts winner. "My projects took the equivalent of three to five days in total."

The three buses taking the students to the convention were packed with participants carrying huge bags of posters, paintings and sculptures. Other winners from the BLS sweep of overall arts were Linda Qin (III), in second place, and Greydon Moorhead (V), in third place. BLS also performed well in Creative Arts, sweeping overall Creative Arts awards, with both Yinyu Ji (IV) and William Gao (III) in 3rd place, Michael Gao (III) in 2nd place and Linda Qin (III) as the overall Creative Arts winner.

Another important aspect of state convention is the campaigning and

election of the MassJCL State Executive Board. This year, Connie Chang (II) of BLS was elected as MassJCL President, Julia Pan (II) as First Vice President and Linda Qin (III) as the Publications Editor. These delegates worked diligently on their campaigns and were all successful.

"Campaigning for a MassJCL position is extremely challenging, but rewarding," says Julia Pan. "One has to create flyers, handouts and stickers ahead of time, but ultimately, talking to individuals during the campaign is the best because one can make so many new friends."

Most of the convention contests, including Olympika, arts and academics were for individual points. Some other contests, however, including the worm and chariot races and spirit parade, contributed greatly to BLS's whole school points. An outstanding occasion for BLS during Convention was the victory of the girls' chariot race and the worm race, and the boys' chariot winning second place. Contributing greatly to our chariot victory were BLS JCL's geminae, Ava (I) and Francesca Violich (I), veterans on the school track team. BLS took first place in worm race, a perplexing and difficult competition, with a strong team. This was the first time Latin School had ever won the worm race at convention, which brought on ecstatic cheering and applause.

The end of State Convention saddened the hearts of dedicated JCLers statewide, but concluded a memorable experience for all.



BLS JCLERS RACE TO VICTORY IN THE CHARIOT COMPETITION.

## BPS Changes Code of Conduct

BY BEN WU, V &  
JONATHAN LI, V  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

The Boston Public Schools (BPS) system has created a newly revised version of the Code of Conduct for the 2013-2014 school year. This includes sweeping changes, most notably the implementation of "progressive discipline" and "restorative justice."

The new Code of Conduct was unanimously passed by the BPS committee as an effort to end the "school-to-prison" pipeline, a disturbing tendency of some public school students ending up in criminal justice systems due to the usage of expulsion and suspension as final consequences. Many student groups, most notably the Boston Student Advisory Council (BSAC), were heavily influential in the reform.

This system of progressive discipline acts as a pyramid of consequences that increases in severity each time a student commits an infraction worthy of suspension or expulsion. For ex-

ample, in the past, if a student were to steal goods from a peer's locker and be caught with the stolen items, the headmaster or any assistant headmaster could immediately suspend the student. Now, however, the student would receive a detention. If he or she committed another transgression, the student would be hit with a censure. After the third offense, the student could finally be suspended. The new process for expulsion follows a similar path.

Restorative justice emphasizes the importance of offenders taking responsibility for their actions and urges them to repair the harm that they caused. This can include apologizing to the victim(s) and, in the case of stealing, returning the goods. The system centers on educating the offender, rather than bestowing him or her with a punishment from which he or she may not learn.

This revision has brought about a lot of controversy in Boston Latin School (BLS).

"I don't think the Boston Public Schools' new Code of Conduct is a real de-

terrent, quite frankly, to students making poor choices," said Assistant Headmaster Ms. Lewis-da Ponte of the new policy's relative leniency.

She informed the Argo that no one from BLS was invited to the committees that discussed the issue, nor did anyone from BLS have any input on the changes.

Ms. Lewis-daPonte does feel that certain parts of the new Code of Conduct have the potential to curb students' poor behavior, specifically new initiatives regarding counseling, intervention and education for students struggling with drug problems. "I believe that a melding of...the old code of discipline with this new code of conduct would be the optimal vehicle for ensuring civility within our schools," she ultimately says.

The new Code of Conduct is certainly more lenient toward students who make poor decisions, but some see it as a second chance to those who make mistakes.

"I think it's a good idea because now students can make a mistake and not have their resumes or c

ollege applications totally ruined by it," says David Shen (V). Eric Tsang (IV) agrees: "I think it's great that BPS has made a new Code of Conduct rule. I think it really gives students a second chance to make up for what they did. I really think this is going to help the students become more relaxed and stress free."

At the end of the day, the new discipline policy was designed to provide a way for students to learn from their bad decisions. In the words of Ms. Lewis-da Ponte, "When we talk about the consequences for certain actions, it's not just about the punishment. It's really about educating students around transgressions that they have committed. We don't want to expel kids, we don't want to suspend kids. The expectations of our students and their behavior haven't changed just because we have a new code of conduct. We expect our students to behave with the utmost respect for themselves and each other in the school." Whether this new development will be successful in enforcing these goals still remains to be seen.

## News Tidbits

>>>On the recent April vacation Facing History trip to Eastern Europe, 47 students and chaperones surprised Mr. Flynn, a last-minute addition to the trip, by revealing t-shirts that said "#Flynnning" with a picture of a young Mr. Flynn. He was happily surprised and put on one of the extra shirts to take a group photo.  
>>>The Government Center Station has been closed for two years due to

a \$82 million reconstruction and improvement project. It hopes to create a "fully accessible, safer, modern, and more comfortable facility." In attempts to ease impacts of the stop closing, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority stated that it will run special bus routes that will stop at the Government Center, Haymarket and State stations. The Bowdoin Station will also extend its operating hours

and be open during all hours of service until Government Center Station's scheduled reopening in the second quarter of 2016.

>>>Prize Declamation Winners

1st prize: Michael Skerrett, I  
2nd prize: William Osborn, I  
3rd prize: Zoe Dinneen, I  
4th prize: Shirley Fang, I  
Classes IV & III: Clare Zhou, III  
Classes VI & V: Xiadi Zhai, V

>>>Prize Reading Winners

First prize: Tana Domingos, II  
Second Prize: Geneva Cusack, I  
Classes III & IV: Clare Zhou, III & Eliot Usherenko, IV  
Classes V & VI: Ina Beinborn, V & Zachary Catalano, VI

>>>US News and World Report has named Boston Latin School the "2014 best high school in Massachusetts."

Editors’ Note

Here it is. The last issue that we oversee ourselves. For the senior issue, we’ll hand the reins over to next year’s editors in chief. Sad. Anyway, the senior hallway will soon be empty except for the cockroaches (Or mice? Which floor has which? The basement definitely has cockroaches.), so make sure to make your last memories with senior friends! Remember, once they leave BLS they cease to exist in this realm and transcend into a greater dimension of being. This, however, requires the sacrifice of an unblemished hooved mammal for each freed soul, so... You win some, you lose some. Say lah vee.

Let’s talk about the issue. That’s kind of what this whole thing is here for, isn’t it? In the following pages, you’ll

read about BLS’s new 3D printer, where to find the best breakfast in Boston, and a crossword that’s so mind-blowing you’ll find yourself questioning the very foundation of your core beliefs.

Now let’s discuss the kind of legacy we’d like to leave behind. First and foremost, we’d really like to continue the original Free Pizza Friday of BLS: Argo Production Week Final Friday Pizza, est. 1635. Also, we’d really appreciate it if the Argo staff called themselves Argonauts. Eh? It’s not the worst idea we’ve ever had. Certainly better than printing an article where we said that BLA was shutting down. Again, our bad on that one. We’d like to keep the Argo moving towards the online digital age, with the dream of one day having our very own internet

site, 2003 style. Fun fact: Mr. Flynn once almost bought the domain Argo.com, which we could have sold to Ben Affleck for big bucks. Imagine how much soap, paper towels, and toilet paper we could buy with the proceeds. Once again, say lah vee.

We’ll miss the Argo next year at the school with a color as its mascot (seriously, whose bright idea was that?), but we’re confident that we’re leaving this paper in able hands. So in case we don’t see ya, good morning, good afternoon, and good night. (Until our longer farewells in the next issue, but just let us have this moment without calling us out on every little thing, okay? Jeez.)

Kisses,  
Mike and Alice, Editors-in-Chief

German Program Bounces Back

By Bianca Ceccon, II & Nora Quinn, II  
Contributing Writers

Boston Latin School’s German program was temporarily abandoned five years ago, due to lack of popularity; thus, students in the Class of 2015 were unable to take German as a modern foreign language. However, students have shown great merit in German since the program’s revival for the Class of 2016.

One such student is Robert Arnold (III) who was recently awarded the AATG/Pädagogischer Austauschdienst Study Trip to Germany for his excellence in German, an award sponsored by the Federal Republic of Germany. Recipients of this award are selected from the group of students who scored within the 90th percentile (or higher) on the National German Exam. The winners spend three to four weeks living in Germany, attending classes at an academic high school and participating in various excursions to places of cultural significance.

When asked about winning the award and his experience learning German, Robert said, “I think German is an amazing language. It has many applications in math, business and science.”

He also mentioned that he had been interested in the history and culture of Germany since he was young.

This recent success for the German program leaves many people confused as to why it was ever abandoned. Many members of the Class of 2015 who were not able to select German as a modern foreign language still express interest in the subject. For example, after taking part in the Facing History trip to Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic, Emily Carrara (II) saw its appeal.

“Traveling for the first time to Germany, I fell in love with Berlin,” she said, “I never thought I’d want to learn German, but I absolutely do now so I can go back. There’s so much history to be learned through the culture and language.”

Nevertheless, the suspension of the program for the Class of 2015 stemmed from lack of interest —not enough students had selected to take German that year. When asked why she chose Spanish over German, Rana Faris (II) explained, “I thought it would give me a competitive edge over other candidates when seeking employment in the future. Spanish is so widely spoken in America that I assumed companies would hire someone who spoke the language over someone

who didn’t.”

Fluency in German, however, has also been lauded as a great asset for a company employee. According to the Indiana chapter of the American Association of Teachers of German, 50% of polled United States companies said that they would hire someone with German literacy over an equally qualified candidate because German proficiency enables communication with European countries. Indeed, German is the most widely spoken language in the European Union, with over 120 million native speakers and 25% of Europeans speaking German as their native tongue.

Michaela Harrington (I), winner of the AATG award in 2012, agrees that German is an important program to sustain at BLS:

“The German department has been one of the strongest programs in my experience at BLS. I did not know a word of German when I started in eighth grade, and I’m graduating close to fluent and plan on majoring in it in college. Because of the strong foundation my German teachers gave me, I know that it will be a lifetime skill,” says Michaela. “I just really want the German program to continue at BLS.”

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# News

## 3-D Printing Comes to BLS

**BY JOHN ZHANG, II &  
TOBY HOLTZMAN, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Boston Latin School (BLS) has acquired a 3-D printer, a device that creates objects out of plastic from blueprints typed into a computer. This futuristic machine can now bring to life everything from anatomical models to children’s drawings, and is being integrated into the school’s science curriculum.

3-D printers, using a plastic compound as a building material, follow instructions laid out on computer-aided design (CAD) software to literally “print” an exact replica of the model on the screen. They form 3-D objects layer by layer by squirting out dots of plastic instead of the ink found in inkjet printers.

Our 3-D printer has come to BLS thanks to a contest held by MakerBot, a leading manufacturer of 3-D printers, on Newbury Street. BLS won the contest by garnering the most votes from MakerBot’s patrons, who were able to vote for a school every time they visited the store. The printer currently sits in the basement of BLS awaiting assembly, as administrators have not yet decided how to incorporate its use into the classroom. According to the head of the science department, Ms.

Bateman, the process could take some time, although students will be able to use the printer eventually in “a variety of classes.”

“Like all new technology, it’s cool and everyone wants to try it,” says Ms. Bateman. “However, we need to make sure that the printer is used primarily to support our learning objectives.”

Despite the inevitable wait, many teachers are thrilled about the printer’s arrival and have big plans for it in their

actually print an object—from around thirty minutes to print a chess piece to twenty-four hours or more for the most advanced models. Because of this, users of the printer at BLS may be limited to prints that have previously received approval. It is also unlikely that students will be given direct access to print whenever they want.

Nevertheless, people have embraced this new technology; the excitement for 3-D printers has extended beyond the realm of BLS. 3-D printers have the potential to revolutionize both industrial and domestic life. They can be used to make low-cost, effective parts. The versatility of 3-D printers alike allows manufacturers to produce several different sellable items while only using one printer, significantly increasing efficiency. Additionally, if they take off commercially, home users will be able to download 3-D models of products over the Internet and print their own items.

Boston Latin School’s new printer marks another step in the school’s attempt to implement technology into its curriculum. Since integrating tools like iPads and Chromebooks into core classes, BLS has shown itself to be a perfect mix of classical education and innovative learning. As Ms. Bateman declares, “It’s always better to try new things. Otherwise, there is no room to grow.”



BLS’S NEW 3D PRINTER MAY LOOK SOMETHING LIKE THIS

classes. Physics teacher Mr. Southwick, for example, hopes to use it to develop “better ramps for physics experiments,” among other objects.

While the printer can be used to make almost anything, from citrus juicers to 3-D topographical maps, it does have its limitations. Firstly, because of the complexity of most models, it can take an extremely long time to

## BLS Juniors Visit College

**BY VICKY GRINBERG, II &  
CASSIDY GIACOPPO, II**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Boston Latin School (BLS) juniors dispersed from the school to areas in and surrounding Massachusetts to visit colleges for “College Visit Day” on April 9. While originally the Guidance Department only permitted students to attend a specified list of colleges in a school group with a chaperone, spaces quickly disappeared minutes after the signup sheet was posted. This prompted the Guidance Department to mark all juniors constructively present if they wished to visit a school on their own the same day. The members of Class II flooded Mr. Montague’s desk with permission slips from their parents requesting these “CP Days,” as students registered online for tours at colleges like Harvard College, Tufts University and Northeastern University. Some students went on the original group tours with the guidance counselors—to schools like Boston University, Boston College and Simmons College—but the majority left school on April 9 independently or with parents to try to learn more about their college choices.

The college tours included an information session with an admissions director and a campus tour. The sessions lasted around an hour and covered everything from the average test scores needed to get in and the financial aid packages available, to the most comfortable dorms and the

strangest professors. The tours of the campuses were conducted under the sun and warm breeze, on one of the first warm days after the cold winter, adding to the students’ satisfaction with their visits. Students left the campuses with a better and more informed sense of the universities they saw.

While some students left feeling that they could see themselves attending the school, others felt differently. Elizabeth George (II) explained that



SOME STUDENTS TOOK A TOUR OF BOSTON COLLEGE.

“many schools look perfect on paper, but when you actually visit them you might find that they aren’t right for you. On the other hand, you could find that you actually really love a school that you weren’t seriously considering before.” This idea resonated with other juniors as well.

Many students greatly appreciated the opportunity to spend a school day, rather than a busy weekend, looking at colleges. Seeing students on the campus and in the classrooms presented a more realistic atmosphere of the college.

Victoria Harik (II) said, “It really helped me to get a chance to visit colleges I’m thinking of applying to. I liked how the school offered it to the whole grade and gave us a CP day, since it is difficult to plan college visits during school and to have to make up missed work.” Juniors also felt that it was very convenient that the college visiting process began junior year rather than senior year. Because of the stressful process of applying and tightening test scores in the fall months, many think it is smarter and more effective to start looking earlier on. Now, it is much simpler now for the juniors to form a tentative list of schools they are considering, and hopefully they will avoid overwhelming themselves in the coming September of senior year.

The organizer of the event, Mr. Montague, says he was glad that so many juniors seized this opportunity and found it to be a helpful experience.

“Many students found this event to be a positive and worthwhile experience [...] Overall, I think it was a successful day,” he said.

Although it seems as though the college process will always be stressful and crazy, this one day helped mitigate some of that for members of Class II. The College Visit Day was seen as a helpful resource that participants hope will be continued in the future. With the new support systems BLS has been installing this past year, the classes of 2016 and beyond can hope for a slightly less bumpy ride.

## Club Spotlight

### Investment Club



**BY SOLOMON TAIEB, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“The Wolfpack of Wall Street,” without all of the felonies and inappropriate behavior, has come to BLS. Have you ever wondered how the stock market works? Or watched “The Wolf of Wall Street” and did not understand a single thing that was going on? Well, the Investment Club is perfect for you. After having discussed a common interest in finance for years, a few members of Class III decided to create the Investment Club as a way to discuss and better understand the world of finance. Nathan Baranski (III), Louis Delano (III) and Solomon Taieb (III) are the co-founders. While being surveyed for their opinions on this newly founded club, most people seemed to react positively.

“I am very proud of the hard work that my friends and I underwent to create this club,” co-founder Nathan Baranski said. “It is something interesting that has never really been done before. I think we have a good chance as a club to learn a lot and hopefully make our lives later on much easier. We have even had kids come up to us asking about it.”

Perhaps a more experienced perspective was provided by Chris Mastrangelo (Class of ’87), who commented, “I am happy to see how diverse Boston Latin is becoming. When I went here, we didn’t have these opportunities and resources that students have today. I definitely would have joined this club if I had the opportunity when I attended.”

This past April vacation, the group held its first seminar at the University Club in Boston’s Back Bay. Club co-founder Louis Delano invited a co-worker from his summer internship at State Street to come and speak. Those who went to the seminar managed to get a better understanding of the purpose and outcomes of investing. The co-founders plan to hold these seminars regularly in order to better educate themselves on the “dos and don’ts” of investing; they hope to schedule several more with different guest speakers before the school year’s end.

The Investment Club meets on Mondays in Room 312 with supervisor Mr. Osowiecki. It focuses on the different components of investing and understanding various aspects of the financial world. At the end of each month, all club members pitch in a small amount of money and actually put it in the stock market. If any money is made, it will be donated to different shelters and worthy causes. Club members are required to dress professionally (ties, skirts, etc.) in order to create an authentic office feeling. This club is recommended for anyone who has taken an interest in finance, is currently taking or plans to enroll in an economics class or who would like an excuse to dress up! Please email [blsinvestmentclub@gmail.com](mailto:blsinvestmentclub@gmail.com) with any questions.

# Marathon Showcases Boston’s Spirit

By **SOPHIA TANG, IV**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

One year after 2013’s tragic bombing, the 118th Boston Marathon was marked by a true display of “Boston Strong” when 32,408 runners competed to show their support for the city.

Among the race’s participants included survivors of the bombing and runners returning to finish what they started last year. Over a million spectators received them with pride as blue and yellow dominated the crowds and highlighted creative audience signs such as, “I don’t even know you but I am so proud of you,” and, “YOU are keeping Boston strong.” These posters showcased the unity created by Boston’s annual event, which included more stringent security measures this year in the form of surveillance cameras, checkpoints and police inspections of backpacks.

The 118th Boston Marathon also made history with a women’s course record—Kenya’s Rita Jeptoo’s time of 2:18:57, which scored her a second consecutive victory—and the first American male winner since 1983. Meb Keflezighi, who won the elite men’s division with a time of 2:08:37, became the first American man to hold the title for over three decades.

The marathon has inspired runners everywhere. Boston Latin School track



MARATHON FINISHERS BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF.

team member Julia Silverman (III) remarks, “Last year, I got to see the top runners that started ahead of the throngs of runners, some that traveled from across the globe to participate. Watching them run was breathtaking; they were able to run 5 minute miles 26 times in a row... Even without a 5 minute mile pace, running a marathon is an incredible feat. They were so dedicated, and seeing all of their strength and determination was fantastic.”

Ava Violich (I), captain of the cross-country team, agrees: “training for a long-distance event like the marathon requires a year of preparation and a lot of time, and I think that after the elites finish the race it’s easy to forget about how much even the slowest runner has

put into preparing for the marathon. Everyone who runs it is pushing through physical and mental boundaries, and I think that as a runner and a spectator that’s important to acknowledge and applaud.”

This year also saw an overwhelming amount of runners representing charity causes. Dick Hoyt, for example, has promoted awareness for the physically challenged by pushing his son Rick, diagnosed with cerebral palsy, in a wheelchair through over a thousand races, including marathons and triathlons. This year they completed their 37th Boston Marathon. The pair originally planned the 2013 Boston Marathon to be their grand finale but were stopped at the 23-mile mark after

the bombing incident. This year, they returned to honor the killed and injured at the event.

Amidst the Children’s Hospital’s “Miles for Miracles” team was BLS’s very own Mr. Timothy McQuade. He recently finished his seventh marathon with the team.

“[The Children’s Hospital] is a special place,” Mr. McQuade explains, “They do a lot of good work. More and more I realize how many students here at BLS are treated there at the Children’s Hospital. It’s a cool way to support the hospital and the young people who go there. It’s been an honor to run for them.”

Explaining what helped him through the race, he insists, “I cannot overstate at all how important the crowds are. For [the Children’s Hospital of Boston Team], we’re lucky enough to have people spread out at three stations: at mile 13, mile 18, and mile 25...three different places where you’re reminded why you’re doing it in the first place. This year too I saw a huge group of BLS kids at Beacon St: the B.S.A [Boston Scholar Athletes]. They called out, ‘Mr. McQuade!’ and it was a huge pick-me-up.”

So mark your calendars for April 20, 2015 and why not dedicate a day to show your support? Whether you are a supporter or a runner, your presence will always be fully appreciated at the Boston Marathon.

## FORUM

# Parental Involvement

By **CHRISTOPHER KIM, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Most people would answer with firm agreement, when asked whether parental involvement benefits children academically. Parents are the figures in many people’s lives that strive to support their children positively in order to achieve their children’s goals. It is almost safe to say that by purely human nature they want their children to be the best they can be and succeed in life. It is not completely necessary, however, for them to hover over their child constantly. It is a parent’s obligation and responsibility to nurture their children, but the idea of overexerting control is extremely flawed. Many forms of parental involvement, such as punishing a child for bad grades or assigning a tutor to a child, does not improve student achievement. Sometimes, they actually end up hindering success.

Constant involvement leads the parents to take control of all their children’s choices, causing children to be

unaccustomed to making good decisions upon adulthood. In addition, this involvement in a child’s life causes the child to depend too much on parents. Even something as small as finding a friend’s house can become a difficulty for maturing adolescents. One of the main goals between a parent and child is to raise them to be able to live independently in the future. Society presents many challenges that children need to learn to face alone.

Many parents put too much pressure on a child’s academic life. As the child nears college-age, parental involvement gradually increases. Parents start to pressure the child to do the best they can in school. By then, school has become something a child does to please their parents and the wishes of the parents become the obligation of the child. In extreme cases, fear of disappointing their parents has resulted in some teen suicides. Even the notion that children do better with involved parents does not make sense. According to Keith Robinson, an assistant professor of sociology at

the University of Texas, Austin, and Angel L. Harris, a professor of sociology and African and African-American studies at Duke’s research, consistent homework help, regardless of social class, racial or ethnic background, have almost never improved test scores or grades. Most parents seemed to be ineffective. Even more surprisingly, kids who had regular help with homework usually performed worse than those who did not. There was, however, one interesting exception: a group of Asians, which included Chinese, Koreans and Indians, appeared to benefit from the regular help, but this benefit was only limited to the grades they got during adolescence. This speaks out to the tutoring and classes outside of school that some parents sign their children up for to get ahead in their school studies. They are only effective for high school grades. After that, these college students are on their own, and it feels a lot different when there is no one to depend on.

Even though there are some forms of parental involvement that do appear to have a positive impact on children aca-

demically, the studies show that there are more instances in which more frequent involvement is related to lower academic performance. But that does not mean parents are not important for children’s academic success. Parents are an essential part in their children’s school performance, but just not in the conventional ways that society has been promoting. Parents should focus on communicating the value of schooling, especially early in their children’s lives, and reinforcing it continuously over time. Instead of using programs like the former President George W. Bush’s No Child Left Behind Act and President Obama’s Race to the Top, which increase parental involvement, there should be programs that focus on helping parents find specific and creative ways to communicate the value of schooling to their children. Also, future research should investigate what kind of involvement is more effective. Yet for right now, parents must establish a routine studying pattern and give support to their kids in a way that only guides, not forces, them onto the right path.

# No Brandeis Degree for Islamophobe

By **ADAM AWAD, I**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Brandeis University recently overturned its decision to award an honorary degree to Ayaan Hirsi Ali after facing a barrage of criticism and a *change.org* petition. Hirsi Ali was to be among four others who would be awarded an honorary degree from the university during its commencement ceremony this May 18. Ayaan Hirsi Ali is a 44-year-old Somali-born woman whose political and social views are anything but subtle. While some deem her to be an invaluable women’s rights and religious freedoms activist, those who possess even a slight

understanding of her know for a fact that she is nothing but a symbol of religious intolerance and hatred (mostly towards her former religion of Islam).

Brandeis University’s statement on their reasoning for this reversal reads, “[. . .] we cannot overlook certain of her past statements that are inconsistent with Brandeis University’s core values. For all concerned, we regret that we were not aware of these statements earlier.” This statement received loads of criticism, however, and not just from her supporters. Most of her opponents, in addition to myself, were critical of Brandeis University’s claim that it was “unaware” of her past statements. Ayaan Hirsi Ali is

blatantly clear about her opposition to Islam. In a 2007 interview by Rogier van Bakel of *Reason* magazine, Hirsi Ali was quoted to have said that productive social and political changes could be brought about “only if Islam is defeated.” When van Bakel inquired if Hirsi Ali was referring to radical Islam, Hirsi Ali proceeded to clarify, “No. Islam, period.” In this same interview she went on to say that, “I think we are at war with Islam,” and that “[. . .] you crush your enemy.” Hirsi Ali is not a women’s right activist nor a religious freedoms activist; that is merely her guise. Hirsi Ali is an irrefutable Islamophobe and holds some of the most bigoted views in the mainstream media.

Islam is the world’s second largest religion with an adherent population estimated to be between 1.6 billion and 1.8 billion. This is approximately 25 percent of the world population. It is most shocking that in 2014, especially in Massachusetts, which is arguably the most tolerant state in the United States of America, someone like Ayaan Hirsi Ali could be defended as deserving of praise and of the honorary degree from Brandeis University by several media outlets. We must praise and honor those who progress society and bring us all closer together, not those who stir hatred among us and dedicate their lives to dividing and isolating others.

# FORUM

## Should APs be limited?



*Pro*

*Con*

**BY GEORGE HUYNH, I**  
STAFF WRITER

**BY ANDREW XIAO, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Advanced Placement (AP) classes are not for everyone. So should sophomores at Boston Latin School (BLS) be allowed to take up to three AP courses? As of this year, the only AP course offered to sophomores is AP World History, but it seems possible for these sophomores to be integrated into classes currently available to juniors, such as AP Language and Composition. With such a small variety of AP courses to choose from, however, there would be a fine line between picking an AP class for the sake of boosting Grade Point Average (GPA) and choosing an AP class out of interest, forcing students to take classes that they have no interest in and may not be able to handle.

Fortunately at BLS, there is a good selection of AP classes to choose from for juniors and seniors, from Literature & Composition to Computer Science and from Biology to Government. With so many options, serious problems arise from the often overwhelming course load and sleep deprivation—an issue widespread among BLS students.

Even so, the brightest, most capable students are often willing to put their health aside and prioritize their grades and resumés to impress college admissions officers. High school is the last stepping-stone to college and with the admission rates of top colleges dropping yearly, the best students are feeling the pressure to separate themselves at the top. Nevertheless, by potentially increasing the maximum amount of AP classes in a core six class curriculum from four to five or six, BLS will only be stressing out its students by intensifying the competition among them.

By raising the amount of AP classes students can take, BLS will be supporting a more rigorous curriculum, but the pressure for students to fill their schedules with them is much more detrimental to their health and learning. BLS should reinforce the idea that their students are actual human beings rather than robots by continuing to limit the amount of AP courses they can take.

A main part in the Boston Latin School student’s life cycle, Advanced Placement (AP) classes are an instrumental piece in demonstrating preparedness for our dream schools. Those who take on and prevail against the burden of multiple APs a year are often rewarded greatly. From sophomore year all the way to senior year, students have opportunities to pursue their academic ambitions through APs, hindered only by the extent of their desires and the regulations of the school administration.

AP courses are offered at BLS to all students in Classes III-I, but the administration puts limits on the amount of AP courses a student may take each year: one for sophomores and four for juniors and seniors. While these boundaries were set to reduce potential sleep deprivation and stress, lifting the limitation on the number of APs will not necessarily have adverse health effects. After all, students assess their own abilities better than anyone else, and as a backup card they can withdraw themselves from a particularly challenging class. Granting students unhindered access to APs will allow everyone to work at his or her own pace.

Lifting the bar on APs offers unique advantages that outweigh its weaknesses. Boston Latin School is reputed to be a top tier public school in the nation, but over the past few years, our prominence has slowly declined to 62nd place. When we got rid of honors courses, our academic strength fell paces behind other competitive schools—taking away access to APs would be another stride backward. Instead of taking the cautious skeptical route, BLS should promote hard work in order to teach students to face up to their challenges.

Taking more APs teaches students invaluable time management and efficiency skills. For instance, sophomores, who are only allotted one AP World History class, face an incredible jump to three or four APs in junior year. Instead, allowing sophomores to take several APs would better prepare them for the strenuous road ahead.

It is important to not forget that we come to school to learn. APs epitomize learning. In comparison to regular classes, APs are more challenging and more thorough, creating a community of education lovers and enthusiasts. This is the spirit that we should be promoting at BLS, one of striving to be at the top, despite all obstacles. Let us say “sumus primi” with pride once again.

### Forum Question

#### Should APs be limited?



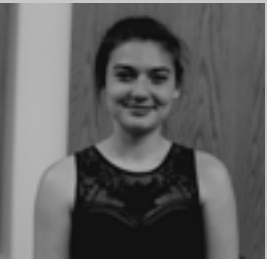
Yes, they should be limited because students tend to overload on AP’s and it only hurts them in the end.

- Brian Mangilog, I



No, because as a student you should take it upon yourself to assess your ability.

- Stephen Bennett, II



Yes, they should be limited because anyone who chooses an AP class will enjoy it more and the class will matter more to them.

- Kaja Grujic, III



No, because if you want to experience the class and gain college credit, you should be able to have the chance.

- Ashley Kelsey, IV

## Down with Anti-Vaccination

**BY MINH TRINH, III**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

For a long time, the anti-vaccine movement has caused hysteria and ignorance among parents, bringing back childhood diseases thought to be vanquished. Now, one of the faces and supporters of the movement, Jenny McCarthy, has recently claimed that she is in fact not anti-vaccine.

The current co-host of “The View” just published an opposite editorial, in which she claims that she has never been anti-vaccine, but rather was misunderstood by the media and the public.

Her statement, however, heavily contradicts what she has said in the past. Her movement has caused fear and hysteria among parents regarding vaccines. Due to her influence, despite that her claims are false and show ignorance,

some parents have chosen not to vaccinate their children, allowing certain childhood diseases to resurface. Here is what McCarthy said to Time magazine in an interview on April 1, 2009:

“I do believe sadly it’s going to take some diseases coming back to realize that we need to change and develop vaccines that are safe. If the vaccine companies are not listening to us, it’s their f\*\*\*ing fault that the diseases are coming back. They’re making a product that’s s\*\*\*. If you give us a safe vaccine, we’ll use it. It shouldn’t be polio versus autism.”

The reason McCarthy is against vaccines is because she believes that vaccines cause autism. McCarthy has a child with autism-like symptoms, and she thinks these symptoms come from vaccines for measles, mumps and rubella. Like many parents, however, she

is mistaking correlation with causation. Parents often see their children develop autistic symptoms at around the same time that they are vaccinated. It is easy to sympathize with these parents, but they are not any less mistaken. McCarthy’s theory has been debunked multiple times already.

One theory was that a preservative in vaccines, called thimerosal, caused autism. Thimerosal, however, has been removed from most childhood vaccines since 2001. If the theory had been true, then cases of autism would have declined, but they have not. The same applies to Canada and Denmark, which have both removed thimerosal from vaccines since the 1990s.

Another popular theory, supported by McCarthy, is that the MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine itself causes autism. This theory

was made popular by Dr. Andrew Wakefield, who published a paper in the British medical journal The Lancet. The theory, however, was thoroughly debunked, and Wakefield had his medical license revoked. Naturally, the anti-vaccine movement should have died down.

Unfortunately, the anti-vaccine movement continues to fight on. The horror of this is that the children, not the ignorant parents, are the ones who suffer and the ones who have to deal with the diseases that could have easily been prevented. The number of non-vaccination cases is much too high in some states. In Oregon, it is 6.4 percent and some counties are hitting double digits. The more children that are unvaccinated, the greater the chance that these diseases will resurface.

## Spotlight

### Daniel Hines



BY HANNAH BROWNE, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Daniel Hines can be summed up in one simple word: helpless. He works at Max Brenner’s to pay the bills that his inspiring music career never will, his favorite past time is thrifting and he wears fake glasses every single day of his life. He is the ultimate “#TransformationTuesday.” If someone told me four years ago that Dhines’ Easter would be spent doing anything other than praisin’ it, I would have never believed them. I’ve watched Daniel grow into the wannabe hipster he is today, and I’ve loved making fun of him every chance I get.

Though it’s hard dealing with a best friend who lacks any listening skills whatsoever, he makes up for it in the humor department. I can always count on Dan to laugh at even the darkest joke. He has never judged my tragic and immoral humor. The best part about telling Dan a joke is that his laugh will make everyone else laugh too, especially when it’s accompanied by crying. Even if you thought the joke was one of the worst attempts at humor that you’ve ever heard, you will inevitably start to laugh when you see tears streaming down his face.

Everyone knows that Dan is a musician. Some know him as the trombone player, others as the singer and many more as the pianist. What people don’t know is that Dan’s true passion is songwriting. He wrote his first song in ninth grade called “This is For Me” (my comment about lack of listening skills is confirmed by that title). Ever since then, he’s been writing hit song after hit song...well, co-writing. Dan and I started our so-called writing duo last summer during the Berklee Five-Week program. Now, we sit in practice rooms every chance we get to write and write and write; I make him play a chord progression over and over again until I find the right lyrics and melody to match, but he never complains. If there are no available practice rooms, I’m the one who says, “Oh well, I guess we better head home,” and he’s the one who says, “No! we can go sit in Guitar Center; they have pianos!” Though I hate to say it, I know I wouldn’t be where I am today if I hadn’t started collaborating with Dan. He’s inspiring and motivational. I always start to question if our songs are any good, but he’s the one who reminds me why I loved them in the first place.

Next year Dan will begin a new chapter of his life at Berklee College of Music. He plans to major in either Music Business, Contemporary Writing and Production or Professional Music; he’s having a hard time deciding. Which-ever he chooses doesn’t matter, though, because his real goal is to be sitting front and center at the 60th Grammys. Hopefully by then, he won’t need to be working at Max Brenner’s any longer. They don’t even give him a discount!

# A&E

## Boston’s Best Breakfast

BY GRACE MANN, I  
A&E EDITOR

Breakfast is the most essential meal of the day and if done right, it’s also the best. Boston is home to an eclectic array of breakfast options ranging from old school diners to up-scale restaurants. By far, my favorite breakfast dish is eggs Benedict, so every time I venture out for a morning meal, you’ll most likely catch me ordering the same thing (For all of you out there who are not familiar with eggs Benedict, it is normally a poached egg and a slice of Canadian bacon atop an English muffin drenched in hollandaise sauce). After testing as many breakfast joints as I could, I’ve narrowed down the best to three restaurants: The Breakfast Club, Victoria’s, and Sorella’s. Not only do these three places have prime eggs Benedict, they also have unique qualities that make the breakfast experience feel like a vacation.

The Breakfast Club, named after the iconic 80s movie, is located in Allston in a quaint little building on Western Avenue. There is always a line of people out the door, which is an initial sign that this place is worth waiting for. Inside, you are met with a blast from the past. The slick silver walls are lined with portraits of old

movie stars and musicians. Though the restaurant is small, it makes use of all its nooks and crannies and accommodates for all of its customers! If you’re out on a solo date, you can choose to sit at the counter and enjoy a meal while watching an episode of I Love Lucy. On the contrary, if you’re out with a group of friends, you can choose to lounge in a comfy booth



MY FAVORITE DISH, EGGS BENEDICT

while enjoying each other's company. The Breakfast Club has eleven different eggs Benedict options. I personally didn’t know that eggs Benedict could be done in so many different ways, let alone done well. My favorite is the Fire Bomb Eggs Benedict which includes shaved sirloin and a spicy hollandaise sauce.

Victoria’s is a 24 hour diner that can be found in South Boston, right next to Newmarket train station. The best part about this diner is it has all

night service. It doesn’t matter what time of day it is; if you’re itching for some breakfast, Victoria’s is open. The restaurant’s feel is very 1950s. Frank Sinatra is always on the radio and the milkshakes are served in those classic 50s glasses. The signature dish is most definitely the french toast. Drizzled with hot syrup, sprinkled with cinnamon and cooked to perfection, the

French toast will melt in your mouth. And if you’re still hungry after that, the traditional eggs Benedict, accompanied by yummy hash browns, will hit the spot.

Sorella’s is located in Jamaica Plain on Centre Street toward Jackson Square. This little restaurant is always packed with people no matter what time of day. Sorella’s is known for its interesting and unique breakfast combinations. You can order blueberry pancakes anywhere, but you can

only order blueberry hazelnut ginger pancakes at Sorella’s. This diner is loved by all Jamaica Plain residents who are willing to wait outside for a seat on busy Sunday mornings, even in the winter. The service is amicable and welcoming, making the restaurant even more delightful.

These three breakfast options are three of the best in Boston. And remember, breakfast is the most essential meal of the day, so you don’t want to settle for anything less than the best.

## Summer Styles

BY VIVIAN HERBERT, III  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Seniors counting down the days ‘till graduation, finals approaching, weather getting warmer—during these last two months there’s only one thing on everyone’s mind: summer.

It’s finally time to say goodbye to the thick sweaters we used all the way through the end of April, time to bid farewell to the UGG boots and the winter jackets. Spring cleaning has come and gone and has left many people without a clue as to their wardrobe for the upcoming season. Luckily, some new (and familiar) trends are bound to catch your eye for June, July and August. Whether reinventing old favorites or hitting Newbury Street as soon as you get the chance, here are some summer fashion trends that look cool whatever the weather.

There is nothing more fun during the warmer months than floral. It can be dressed up or down and is perfect to accessorize with. You can rough it up with a cool leather jacket or keep it “Upper East Side” with a headband and some flats. Floral always looks effortless but interesting and can be worn on everything from skirts to shoes. If floral’s not your thing, there are plenty of other summer patterns to choose from.

Despite the fact that 2013 was basically “the summer of tribal print” it seems to have been recently

updated in more muted colors and on a smaller scale for the new year. Similarly, plaid, a trend that took hold of almost everyone this winter with the addictive property of flannel, is also making its way into summer style. Lighter shirts or plaid



COMFY ROMPERS ARE THIS SUMMER’S BEST OPTIONS

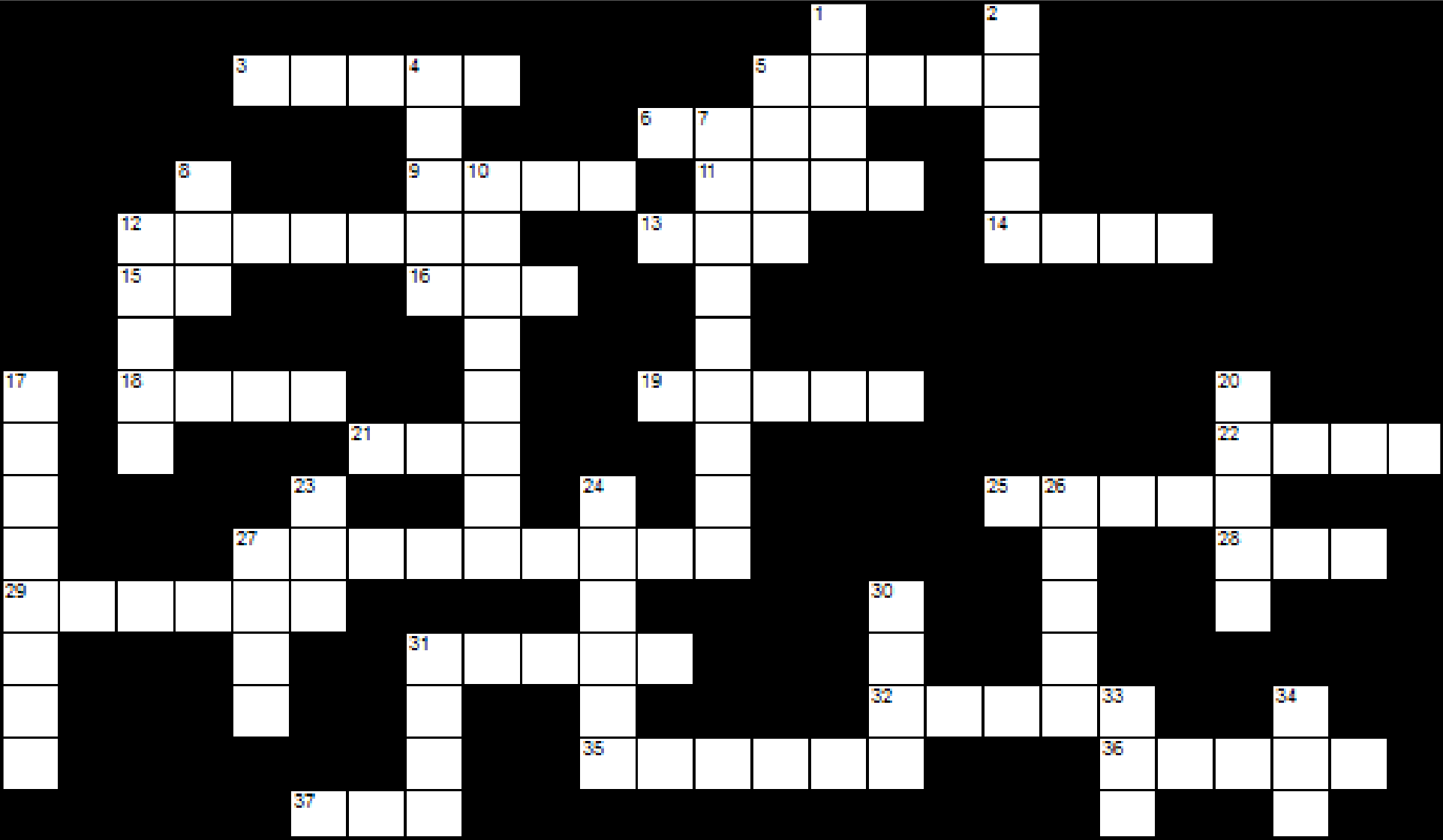
skirts still possess that “city cool” effect, but won’t keep you too stifling hot. If you’re looking for actual pieces instead of patterns, there are a few good staples to have in your arsenal for the summer.

One would be the crop top, which had a smaller following last year, but has recently burst on the fashion scene. The crop top has become a major necessity. They’re

perfect for high-waisted shorts and skirts, plus they come in a million different colors. Also, for the boys out there, men’s crop tops were spotted at Coachella (Kid Cudi style) and could be the next big thing in hip-hop style. They might not be on the covers of Gentlemen’s Quarterly (GQ) yet, but there’s no telling how far this trend can extend.

Another good wardrobe addiction is the romper or jumpsuit. Basically an outfit in one and a personal favorite, they look good merely walking around town or out to dinner. If you’re looking for a dressy outfit, but without all the hassles of a dress or skirt, the jumpsuit is the perfect option. Admittedly this trend was met with a little skepticism at first, but if Beyoncé is unafraid to rock a black and white one piece at the Grammys, I think it’s safe to say that jumpsuits and rompers are happily here to stay.

One thing you don’t have to do this summer is break the bank buying new clothes. Plenty of trends you loved from last year are still very much alive. Maxi skirts and dresses keep you cool and look effortlessly hip as well. High-waisted shorts are always good to have, as well as a nice denim jacket. Sheer fabric and layering keep you from suffering through all of the 90-degree weeks. At the end of the day, what matters is staying cool and feeling good. Experiment with a new trend or rock what you know, anything goes well with a schoolless, stress-free mentality.



Across

- 3. Baby eating proponent
- 5. British nobleman
- 6. Villain in the Artemis Fowl series
- 9. Celestial bear
- 11. Wise guy; smart \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. Rock containing minerals
- 14. Best Game of Thrones character
- 15. Jai \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. Equivalent to five spaces
- 18. Memorization
- 19. Well known weapon for killing a vampire
- 21 First lady, ever
- 22. Famous British preparatory school

- 25. Recently closed coffee and food cart
- 27. BLS alumnus who wrote the music to West Side Story
- 28. Color quality
- 29. Peninsula that just had its fifteen minutes of fame
- 31. Color of Ms. Freeman’s wardrobe
- 32. The only things that can stop you feeling so empty online
- 35. School the Hogwart’s dining hall is modeled after
- 36. Kind of muffin AND bagel; its seeds are used to make narcotics
- 37. Tribute in verse

Down

- 1. Lock company; “safety school”
- 2. Second largest populated country
- 4. Where earthquakes happen
- 5. Christian or hay \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. Beyonce’s hit sound that includes French
- 8. Company top dog
- 10. “Doctors say I’m the illest because I’m suffereing from \_\_\_\_\_” ~Kanye
- 12. Their teeth are actually scales; one of the most terrifying creatures of the sea
- 17. App that recently updated to be like Factice
- 20. Singer who recently dropped the \$ from her name

- 23. Naturally cafeinated and decaffeinated beverage
- 24. Superior alternative to buttons and laces
- 26. Pond scum
- 27. A new high with lip balm
- 30. The \_\_\_\_\_ never bothered me anyway
- 31. Color of Mike Skerrett’s beautiful eyes
- 33. Place to get some pampering and much needed R&R
- 34. Acronym for new BLS lunch tradition

Art Exhibit

BY ALICE XIAO, I &  
ALLIE KENNELLY, I  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & A&E EDITOR

Soft jazz drifted down the halls of the third floor of Boston Latin School on a drizzly Wednesday evening. Outside the Sheldon Seevak room, students and their families clustered around a large table of refreshments and chatted softly, surrounded by round tables covered in purple tablecloths. Inside the Seevak room, the usually stern atmosphere had transformed into a lively space full of vibrant watercolor landscapes, striking charcoal sketches of abstract shapes and whimsical clay sculptures.

Class I and II students who take Foundations of Visual Art (FVA) and Advanced Placement (AP) Art had the opportunity to share the products of their hard work with family and friends at the Boston Latin Art Department’s 12th Annual Exhibit of Student Art on April 30. Each student displayed two to three pieces that showed a variety of mediums, styles and subject matters. Many AP Art students included works that focused on their concentration, a theme that they work on for the whole year, while FVA students contributed a generally wider array of topics.

The event was coordinated by Mr. Steven Harris, Ms. Elizabeth Walshak and student teacher Mr. Jonathan Boles with the help of student volunteers. The exhibit celebrates the year’s hard work and offers an opportunity to share students’

creative sides.

Many students, like Ali Jean-Pierre (I), an FVA student, were proud to participate in the event. “It makes me feel confident about my work,” she said.

Mr. Harris, the AP Art and FVA teacher who started the annual exhibit, was pleased with the turnout of the event.



A SAMPLING OF THE STUDENT ARTWORK AT THE ART EXHIBIT

“I’m always impressed with the number of parents who come,” he said. “This year there was an even higher ratio of students who came. It was nice to see so many students supportive of their friends.”

Ms. Walshak, who teaches FVA classes and runs an after school ceramics club, noted that the event enabled stu-

dents “to reflect on their growth as artists and to connect with each other.”

In addition to showcasing visual art, the Seevak room was also graced by a live jazz group organized by Mr. Paul Pitts, featuring Harry Xue (I) on alto saxophone, Jasper Shilling (I) on tenor saxophone, Charles Vadala (II) on piano



and Boston Arts Academy sophomore Daniel Winshall on bass.

Refreshments were provided, courtesy of Mr. Harris’ wife, which included a delectable vanilla cake, cream puffs and other pastries and tangy salsa along with pita bread.

Alumni who visited the exhibit on Alumni Day, Friday, May 2, were

impressed with the student work and the size of the art department, which has grown substantially over the past decade.

“It was amazing,” said Ayana Corbin (’94). “I was really impressed. I’m glad current students have the chance to partake in the arts to supplement their academics.”

BLS students agree, generally commenting on how art class is a much needed outlet.

“I think it’s important to show the creativity and expression that we don’t appreciate or display in academics,” said Meiling Xu (I), an FVA student.

The response to the show is always so strong that Mr. Harris intends to display the art works usually exhibited in the art wing year-round to more prominent areas of the school.

“It’d be great to let the rest of the school see what their classmates have achieved and see their options for elections,” he said.

Students also expressed their desire to see more work displayed.

“The art gives light to the school and viewing it brightens up students’ moods,” said Jasmine Munoz-Torres (I), an FVA student.

And, as Xingye Wang (I) said, “Part of making art is showing it off. If no one sees what you do, then what’s the point?”

For the time being, works are displayed in the art wing through the end of the year. So next time you need a break from the stress of school, stop by and take it all in.

# SPORTS

## Gybe City: BLS Sailing

### Spotlight Kayla Regan



By COLLEEN SHEA, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Let us all recall Kayla Shalini Regan’s fedora-rocking seventh grade days (yes, she has indeed been making questionable fashion choices since the age of twelve). Kayla was a stranger to me, an enigma even, due to the fact that she is from New York. I had very low expectations about Kayla from the start. What half-decent human being worthy of my friendship would wear a Yankee T-shirt equipped with a fedora? To be honest, she only very slightly exceeded my expectations as a person, but she makes really good cookies, so I guess we are friends.

My friendship with Kayla didn’t blossom until she abandoned the fedora in the eighth grade. Our friendship, however, soon turned into a beautiful thing. Kayla is a great friend to be spontaneous with. In the eighth grade, she was always up for avoiding crew practice at all costs. She once even broke her toe as we practiced with a softball team we weren’t even on, just so she could be late to crew. Commitment. We have battled each other in very violent kayak wars, which are as safe and mature as they sound. She was even present when, on a whim, we bought two rabbits on a Saturday night, which, by the way, are much more likable than she is. It’s a shame that she is equally as spontaneous as the clothes she wears to school... seriously; she wore camouflage cargo pants. Those pants will never be appropriate, Kayla. Never.

I know in many past senior spotlights, many writers say to introduce yourself to a specific senior, and say hello to them before you lose the chance of knowing them forever. I think that’s great and all, but if you see Kayla in the halls, don’t say hello. Please push her into her locker, maybe step on the backs of her shoes as she is walking, or slap what she is holding out of her hands as you walk past. More than likely, if you do this, you will grace the halls with the sound of Kayla’s cackling laughter. Everyone can appreciate someone who laughs at herself.

I began writing this when Kayla was visiting her future school, Barnard College. I have to say, I was completely lost all day. I didn’t know what to do in school that day and I didn’t even want to think about the weekend. Kayla, I don’t know what I’m going to do without you next year. You’re my only friend who makes me cookies for no reason, who goes to every concert with me to see bands you don’t even know and who lets me sing “Brave” in your car. I mean, I can’t even get home without you because I have no sense of direction. I am going to try really hard to be nice right now: I guess I almost kind of sort of might miss you just a little bit next year. P.S. I apologize to all fedora-wearing people who I may have offended, but really, no one can wear a fedora worse than Kayla. I’m sure if you wear a fedora and you aren’t Kayla, you will look great.

By BEN RINGROSE, I  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

“We are winners. We are champions. We are the best. Also, we’re extraordinarily humble.” (Joe DiMento, Class III)

To talk the talk, you have got to walk the walk. After dishing out devastating, shutout losses to schools like Natick, Pingree and Gloucester High School, it’s clear the Boston Latin School sailing team is doing just that. In fact, as it stands, the sailing team has met only one team capable of beating them. “We’re doing really well at the moment, and we plan to keep it up.” (Alexis Kelly, I) With its near-perfect 3-1 record, the BLS sailing team stands as a competitive contender for a podium finish in the Massachusetts Bay League Team Racing B Division. A winning season like this, however, does not come easily.

The team puts in over ten hours a week into learning and refining new strategies and tactics. They work on techniques, such as roll tacking and gybing, pinching and footing that allow them to achieve stellar results. “We do our best work by showing up to every practice ready to work—anything less is unacceptable.” (Andy Gove, I)

Practicing in some of New England’s toughest maritime conditions makes the sailors a hardy bunch, able to take some of nature’s roughest poundings. These sailors are often thrown into situations that weaker individuals would simply be unable to handle. “During one race, my boat capsized on me and then became completely inverted. As I was held under the freezing water by the ropes, all I could think about was getting to the surface and cheating death.” (Francis DiMento, II) Facing near-death experiences like this is the norm for these sailors.

One of the best parts of this year’s sailing team is its winning attitude. Even when faced with a tough loss against Brookline, senior sailor Lucy Sergeant (I) remarked, “ You can’t let one loss get to your head. It’s crucial to learn from your mistakes and use them to make your next performance better.” With an attitude like that, it is no wonder the team has become a force to be reckoned within the Massachusetts Bay League.

Perhaps even more amazing than this team’s attitude is the people it consists of. The team is lead by captains Ben Ringrose (II), Alexis Kelly (I) and homeschooled participant Ben “He doesn’t even go here” Geffken.

“It’s such an honor to be able to lead a group of people this dedicated to their sport,” exclaimed Alexis Kelly (I). On this team, however, leadership goes far beyond those holding official titles. “Even though my teammates didn’t elect me captain, I can tell that they all look up to me. What can I say; I’m a likeable person.” (Mather Hoyt, I)

Four boats consisting of one skipper and one crew can be seen at the head of many races. Boats consisting of Ben Geffken and Audrey Milite (I), Ben Ringrose (II) and Alexis Kelly (I), Sophie Shea (III) and Lucy Sergeant (I) as well as Gemma Walls (III) and Francis DiMento (II) are leading the way for the team’s future generations. Thanks to many of the rising sailors that make up a majority of the team, they can look forward to a future with many more wins held in store.

The sailing team this year is an absolute powerhouse out on the water. Lead by the best and brightest, and consisting of some of the best young sailors Boston has to offer, it is one of the best groups of sailors the team has known in recent memory. If you think you want to be part of it, come down and join us next year. We’ll see if you just might have what it takes.



CONCERT CHOIR, DIRECTED BY MR. RYAN SYNDER, PERFORMS WITH A STRING QUARTET ON MUSIC NIGHT.



PAUL MENITOFF ('64), ERIC KORN ('64) AND JOEL SMITH ('64) RETURN FOR THEIR 50TH REUNION ON ALUMNI DAY

### Give a Senior Shout-out!

The last issue of the *Argo* newspaper, which comes out Graduation Day (June 9), is a special senior edition in which you can submit shout-outs congratulating your students on their accomplishments and for graduating from Boston Latin School. All proceeds will be used to print the newspaper. Thank you!

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